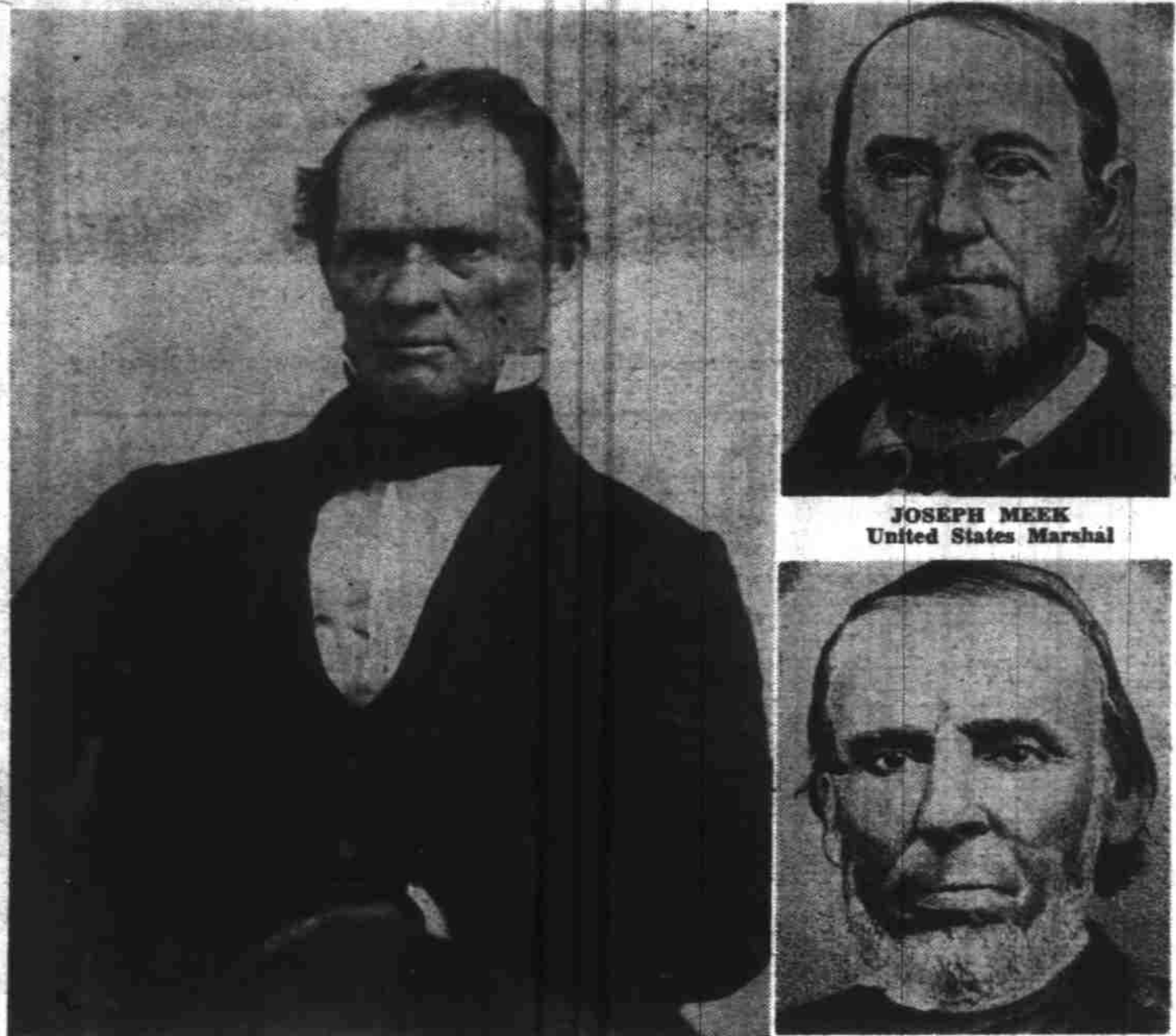


An Epoch Now 100 Years Old: Oregon Becomes a Territory



JOSEPH LANE
First Territorial Governor

JOSEPH MEEK
United States Marshal

J. QUINN THORNTON
Oregon Supreme Court

These three men figured heavily in the establishing of Oregon as an integral part of the United States a century ago. The area became a U.S. territory on August 13, 1848. (Oregon state library photos.)

Teacher Jumps from Consulate

Kremlin Talk Held; Molotov Asks Samarin 'Freed'

West Repels Red Invasions Of Berlin Zone

MOSCOW, Aug. 12.—(P)—United States, British and French diplomats talked today with Soviet Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov in the fifth of a series of Kremlin conferences on the Berlin crisis and other east-west differences.

The session lasted for two hours and forty-five minutes. When it was over, U. S. Ambassador Walter Bedell Smith said: "We are still without any conclusions."

Upon leaving the fortress-like seat of the soviet government, Smith, British special envoy Frank Roberts and French Ambassador Yves Chataigneau went to the American embassy to discuss the communications they will send to their home capitals.

No Sign of End

There is no sign that the negotiations with the Russians are nearing an end. Asked by a newsman if there would be more conferences, Smith replied: "We never know that, but I do think so."

Family Feud Climaxed by Slaying, Suicide Attempt

Ambush Near Dallas Fatal To Fred Baley

DALLAS, Ore., Aug. 12.—(Special to The Statesman)—A family feud over a forthcoming marriage led to gun-fire, violent death and a murder charge today.

Dead was Fred Baley, 49, route 2, box 300A, Dallas.

Injured and in the hospital charged with Baley's slaying was Amos Sooter, 40, route 2, box 222½, Dallas.

As reconstructed in reports of Deputy Sheriff Tony Neufeldt, the events appeared to be these:

Baley and his wife, Ida, were veritably ambushed between 7 and 7:15 this morning as they drove their 1933 Chevrolet pickup toward Dallas on the East Pioneer loop road about four miles northwest of the city off the Ellendale highway.

Ten slugs from a 12-gauge shotgun tore into the pickup, eight of them in a moon-shaped pattern just back of Baley's head. The pickup overturned as Baley slumped, fatally injured. Mrs. Baley escaped with cuts and bruises, and went for aid to the nearby home of Lawrence Rockford.

Able to Drive Car

Meanwhile, Baley's killer had turned the shotgun on himself, but while suffering from head and scalp wounds as a result he still was able to drive a 1936 Chevrolet slatted truck from nearby concealing bushes, and proceeded to Dallas. The killer, according to investigators, was Sooter, who was found in front of Sheriff T. B. Hooker's deputy by Miss Dolores Smith, a deputy tax collector, and G. F. McBee, courthouse caretaker, shortly before 7:30 a.m.

Sooter was covered with blood from head wounds. He was quoted as telling Miss Smith that he had just shot a man and wanted to see the sheriff. Miss Smith then summoned Deputy Neufeldt, who asked her to call an ambulance for Sooter and then went to the scene of the tragedy after receiving a call from Sheriff Hooker regarding it.

Followed Quarters

The shooting followed about 10 days of violent quarreling between Sooter and his wife and the Baleys over the forthcoming marriage of John Allen Sooter, 19, to Mary Louise Day, 18, foster daughter of the Baleys. Investigators said. Sooter objected to the marriage, which was to have taken place today, according to sheriff's reports.

Divorce papers filed Wednesday by Mrs. Sooter charged that Sooter had beaten her about the head with a rifle about 10 days ago. At that time she and her four sons went to live with the Baleys. A week ago, Baley drove Mrs. Sooter to the Sooter home to gather her belongings, and a fight between Sooter and Baley took place, Baley blacking Sooter's eyes, the sheriff's reports state.

Sooter to Recover

Dr. D. E. White of the Dallas city hospital said later today that Sooter would recover providing no complications set in. The forehead of his scalp was torn away by the shotgun blast.

Sheriff Hooker said that he had filed first degree murder charges against Sooter, and that a preliminary hearing would be held as soon as Sooter is well enough.

Fred Baley, employed at the Dallas Tannery, was born Oct. 3, 1899, at North Platte, Neb., the son of William and Cora Baley. He married Ida Seeley June 30, 1934, at Greeley, Neb., and they lived in North Platte until 1937 when they moved to Dallas. He is survived by his widow, Ida Baley, two sons, Fred N. Baley, North Platte, and Donald Baley, San Francisco, a foster daughter, Mary Louise Day, Dallas, and a brother, Thomas Baley, Dallas.

A funeral will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, August 16, at the Henkel and Bolman Chapel in Dallas.



Amos Sooter, 40, Dallas route 2, box 222½, is pictured in Dallas city hospital with Polk County Sheriff T. B. Hooker (right) who filed a first degree murder charge against Sooter following fatal shotgun shooting of Fred Baley, Dallas route 2, Thursday. Sooter's head wounds were self-inflicted with the shotgun and his blackened, swollen eyes (see inset) resulted from a fight with Baley last week, the sheriff said.

Soviet Woman Critically Hurt, In U.S. Hands

NEW YORK, Aug. 12.—(P)—A Russian woman teacher flung herself from a third floor window of the Russian consulate today and tonight told a friend from her hospital bed, "I had to get out."

The teacher, Mrs. Okunina Stepnova Kosenkina, 52, lay critically injured in Roosevelt hospital. Her dramatic mid-afternoon leap climaxed an amazing story with international ramifications.

Police at the hospital said she told them she jumped deliberately. Later she asked that a White Russian (anti-communist) friend, Vladimir Zenzinov, be brought to her bedside.

Police took him to the hospital. Mrs. Kosenkina jumped into the consulate court yard at 3:20 p. m. EST. She landed enmeshed in the wires of a fence.

Police on guard outside leaped the fence to help her. They reached her just as consulate employees picked her up and carried her inside. Forty minutes later she was taken to the hospital.

Took Her to Camp

Zenzinov, a journalist, described himself last Saturday as the man who spirited the teacher away from New York and to a White Russian camp at Valley Cottage, N.Y., 30 miles north of the city.

Soviet officials took her from there Saturday. Their self-described "rescue" of her brought to light her story.

Embarrassed Journalist

A witness to the meeting said she embraced the journalist, and that Zenzinov told her "the police and the U.S. government were behind her and that nothing could happen to her now."

Asked if he believed Mrs. Kosenkina had been held at the consulate against her will, which the Soviets have denied vigorously, Zenzinov replied with a shrug: "What do you think—if a woman has to jump out a window to get away?"

Zot I. Chepurnykh, Soviet vice consul who went to the hospital to try to see Mrs. Kosenkina, was asked about her statement that she had jumped. He replied: "What else could it be?" she was very nervous and kept complaining about the crowds in front of the building since her return.

He said she left several letters "but only to her relatives in Russia."

The police refused to permit Chepurnykh to see her.

Earlier at the hospital Deputy Chief Police Inspector Edward Mullins said the teacher told him: "I did jump."

Police Guard Room

A 24-hour guard has been placed around her, Mullins added.

Other events of the day included:

A second Russian teacher, Michael Ivanovitch Samarin, was questioned by the house committee on un-American activities, probing charges that a red spy network reached high into U.S. officialdom in wartime. The committee said he gave no information pertinent to the inquiry. He read a public statement afterward saying he wanted to tell about the Russian people's condition under the "Soviet dictatorship." He said he and his wife faced death or life sentences in a concentration camp if returned home.

Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov demanded the "immediate release" of Samarin and punishment of all persons involved in the "kidnapping" of Samarin and Mrs. Kosenkina. There was no comment from the state department, but Secretary of State Marshall had said the U.S. would protect all law-abiding witnesses before the house committee.

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague

From the diary of Pres. James K. Polk:

Wednesday, 12th July 1848—I learn that after much discussion today, the senate agreed to a resolution referring the Oregon bill and my message in relation to the organization of territorial government in California and New Mexico to a select committee of eight members. . . . The object was to see if a proposition of compromise upon the subject of slavery in these territories could be agreed upon.

Friday, 28th July, 1848 - I learned in the afternoon that the house of representatives had, by a majority of 15 votes, laid on the table the bill, passed by the senate yesterday morning, to compromise the slavery question as it relates to the organization of territorial governments in Oregon, California and New Mexico. I regard this vote of the house as most unfortunate. . . . The result of leaving the slavery question an open one, to be agitated by ambitious political aspirants and gamblers and their friends, will be to produce an organization of parties upon geographical lines, which must prove dangerous to the harmony if not the existence of the Union itself.

Monday, 8th August, 1848 - The cabinet met at the usual hour. . . . I informed them that from present appearances in congress no bills would be passed establishing territorial governments in New Mexico and (Continued on Editorial Page)

Today's Centennial Recalls Long Fight

(Editor's note: A century ago today congress passed the bill that made Oregon a territory of the United States. It was an occasion for great celebration by the settlers in the Willamette valley. And tomorrow the 100th anniversary of the date President Polk affixed his signature to the bill will be observed with special ceremonies at Oregon City, the territorial capital, and elsewhere. August 13 and 14 mark the climax of this, Oregon's centennial year.)

By Marguerite Wittwer Wright
Staff Writer, The Statesman

Sometimes presidential campaign promises come true: Oregon became a territory of the United States a hundred years ago today partly because a handful of settlers in the Willamette valley took seriously the political oratory of Candidate James Polk.

The democratic platform in 1844 championed the acquisition of Texas and Oregon to which, Polk said, the United States had "clear and unquestionable title." "Fifty-four Forty or Fight" was the challenging slogan that helped Polk into office but, while the United States completed the Texas annexation at the cost of war with Mexico, Oregon was temporarily forgotten.

Some historians say Oregon was included in the democratic plank mainly as a sop to northern abolitionists who figured Texas would be a slave state and who wanted to add a free area to keep the balance. Then, after the election, politicians deemed it convenient to neglect the western country because the slavery issue was getting warm.

Slavery Question Hampers Oregon Decision

It was, in fact, the slavery question that divided congress more sharply than the territorial issue alone. When the legislators were considering the Oregon question a century ago, the issue of equality for the negro—as now—was hotter than Washington in August. It brought on the filibuster by southern senators against the Oregon bill—one of the south's first moves in the direction of secession.

Able congressmen like Jefferson Davis and Andrew P. Butler were bitterly opposed to their pro-Oregon colleagues, especially Thomas H. Benton of Missouri and Stephen A. Douglas of Illinois. There was even talk of dueling but the confident Oregon faction was content to doze in cloakrooms while Gen. Henry Foote of Missouri talked from Saturday morning, Aug. 12, 1848, until 8 a.m. the next day, when the south yielded to a vote and Oregon became a territory.

The president signed the bill August 14, 1848.

Actually, the little communities in the Willamette valley were rather well off in 1847 when they began to agitate for territorial status. The provisional government was satisfactory; it met the pressing need for laws and political organization and Gov. George Abernethy, though unpopular among some cliques, was an able administrator.

Senate Inaction Causes Disappointment

The treaty with England resolving the boundary dispute had been signed the year before and there was no longer fear of war with the British. California was secured and buying Oregon produce. Crops were abundant and the health of the colony was excellent.

But the 10,000 to 12,000 settlers were not content. Earlier, in 1847, the house of representatives passed a bill creating the Oregon territory but the senate failed to act. Oregon heard the unwelcome news from the immigration trains that fall and the settlers' disappointment was keen.

That wasn't all that ailed them, however. They were worried about the loose condition of land titles and the disposition of the Indians. The Indian agent congress had appointed turned out to be worse than none and the two official postmasters, one at Astoria and one at Oregon City, were not adequate. Specifically, the settlers wanted recognition of the provisional government's legislative and judicial acts, grants of land for settlers and schools, a mail service, pilot boat and buoys in the Columbia, a naval station and a highway between Oregon and the States.

Settlers Object to Secret Appointment

So, while other groups were talking of sending memorials to Washington, Governor Abernethy, on the advice of a few prominent settlers and the Methodist mission (and with their financial backing), dispatched Supreme Judge J. Quinn Thornton of Salem as an unofficial envoy to Washington. The judge left secretly in October, just before the Whitman massacre, traveling to the nation's capital by sea, and arrived there in May, 1848.

Meanwhile, many settlers disapproved of the method whereby Abernethy had appointed Thornton, whom some considered a sissy because of the fuss he had made about hardships on the Applegate trail. They thought their representative should have been elected. But when Jolly Joseph Meek, one of their own kind, left the Willamette valley in January, 1848, to report the Whitman massacre and ask federal aid in fighting Indians, the good wishes of the people rode with him.

The effect of these two men on Capitol Hill was electric. Thornton, dignified, self-respecting, scholarly, sincere and utterly devoid of humor, was most successful working behind the scenes.

Meek Oregon's Most Effective Lobbyist

Joe Meek, on the other hand, was a trapper and mountaineer who arrived in Washington "dirty, ragged and lousy" and made the most of it. A distant relative of the president, Meek was a White House guest and soon was as much at ease in swallow-tail coat as in buckskin breeches. Meek was Oregon's best lobbyist and public relation's man; Thornton was the legal expert and technical advisor.

The men deserved equal recognition for their services to the state but Meek seemed to get the lion's share. He was appointed U. S. marshal and accompanied Gen. Joseph Lane, newly-appointed first governor of the territory, to Oregon City.

Thornton was said to have been promised appointment as federal judge of the territory but reportedly refused to be party to an extortion scheme between the Hudson's Bay company and President Polk and consequently was dropped from White House favor. He did get a job as federal Indian sub-agent but failed to please Governor Lane and died a penniless old man, in Salem 60 years ago.

The provisional government which had been set up at Champoug in 1843 was voluntarily laid down when Lane arrived, marking the end of the mission influence on Oregon politics, and the beginning of public action toward statehood.

Climbers Seek To Add 24 Feet To Mt. Rainier

SEATTLE, Aug. 12.—(P)—Four Seattle mountain - stretchers are scheduled to leave town today to make Mount Rainier 24 feet taller.

"Make our mountain the second highest in the country or bust," they said as they made for the country's fourth highest peak.

After California's Mount Whitney (14,995 feet) and two Colorado peaks, Rainier at 14,408 feet comes first. Colorado's Mount Elbert stands 14,431 feet and Mount Massive looms up at 14,418.

Chiropractor C. A. Mittun plans to correct this humiliation speedily, however. He will lead three other climbers to the summit of Mount Rainier and build a mound of rocks 24 feet high. Then our mountain will stand one foot higher than Mount Elbert.

Then the Washingtonians' service club will try to get the secretary of the interior and the national park service to approve the tricky maneuver.

If they do, Rainier will officially be the second highest peak in the nation — until some Colorado wise-guy decides Mount Elbert needs some rocks on its head, too.

Oregon City Opens Activities Marking Oregon Centennial

OREGON CITY, Aug. 12.—(P)—Oregon's Centennial celebration opened today with tug boat races, a water tug-of-war, log rolling contests, show parades.

Oregon City residents sporting pioneer garb turned out on the waterfront for the opening bomb — but didn't hear it. Fearful the explosion might break windows, Centennial president Lynn Latourette carried the bomb into the woods to explode it.

The detonation marked the start of a four-day festival celebrating the foundation of the Oregon territory. The queen, Arlene Stone of Oswego, was crowned tonight.

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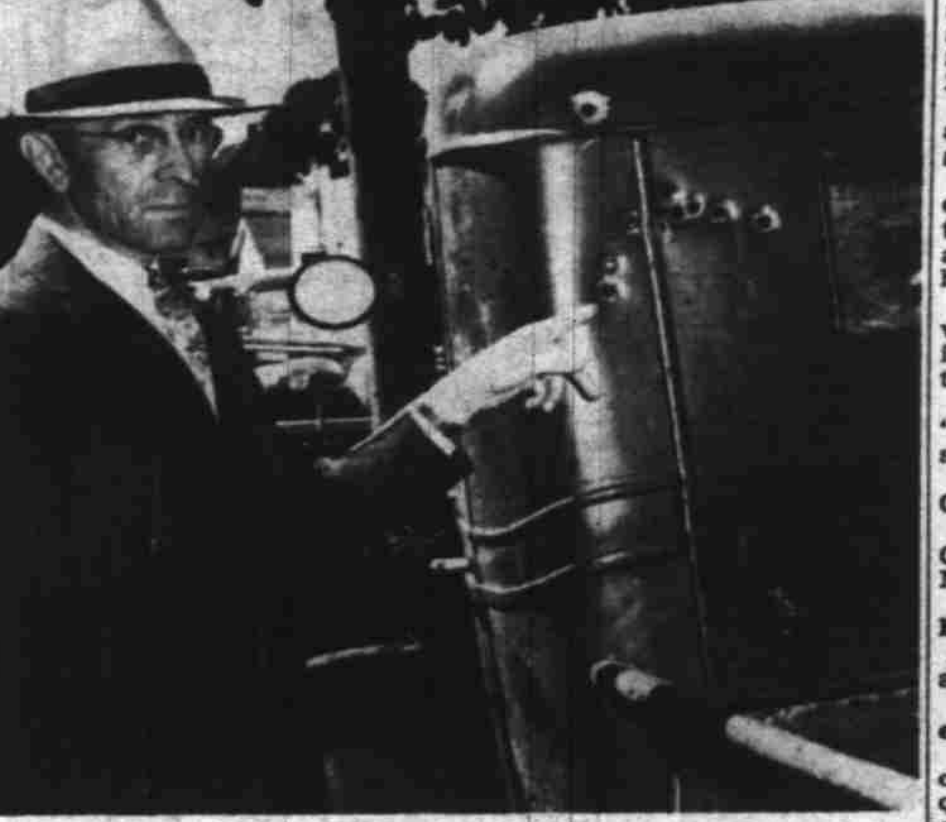
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Canada May Lift Embargo on Meat

OTTAWA, Aug. 12.—(P)—An informed source forecast tonight that the Canadian embargo on the shipment of beef cattle to the United States will be lifted soon.

While the move would mean more quality beef on United States tables, it is believed the opposite would be true in Canada.

Deputy Sheriff Tony Neufeldt of Polk county points to the slug-riddled cab of Fred Baley's pickup truck in which Baley and his wife, Ida, were riding to work in Dallas Thursday morning when four shotgun blasts from ambush killed Baley instantly. Mrs. Baley was unhurt. (Photos by Don Dill, Statesman staff photographer.)



Deputy Sheriff Tony Neufeldt of Polk county points to the slug-riddled cab of Fred Baley's pickup truck in which Baley and his wife, Ida, were riding to work in Dallas Thursday morning when four shotgun blasts from ambush killed Baley instantly. Mrs. Baley was unhurt. (Photos by Don Dill, Statesman staff photographer.)

Weather

Max.	Min.	Precip.
Salem 82	49	.00
Portland 73	37	.00
San Francisco 77	51	trace
New York 78	60	.81

Willamette river - 3.1 feet.

FORECAST (over U.S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Mostly cloudy this morning, becoming partly cloudy in afternoon and clearing by evening. High today 82. Low tonight 58. Weather favorable for farm work.

SALEM PRECIPITATION (Sept. 1 to August 13)

This Year	Last Year	Average
47.50	35.72	27.50

Woodburn Stores To Close for Burial Of War Veteran

WOODBURN, Aug. 12.—All Woodburn stores and business houses will be closed Friday from 2 to 2:30 p.m. during the funeral of Pfc Edward Charles Doland, killed Sept. 5, 1944, in France.

Woodburn business men several months ago agreed to close up during the funerals of Woodburn service men killed overseas and whose bodies were returned here for burial.

Burial will be in Belle Pass cemetery following services at Ringo chapel at 2 p.m.

Animal Crackers

By WARREN GOODRICH



"That watermelon you sold me yesterday was hardly fit to eat."

OUR SENATORS

WON 6-0

Salem Will Have 2,000 More Telephones Before October 1

An additional 2,000 telephones will be in operation by October 1 in Salem, it was disclosed Thursday. Some 1,650 of them already have been "pre-installed" and will be connected into service by September 15. They will serve persons who have been on waiting lists for many months.

New and additional dial equipment — part of a \$500,000 expansion in this area's telephone service — will go into operation at 11:30 p. m. Saturday, September 4, and all present four-digit telephone numbers will become five-digit numbers at that time. E. A. Berglund, Salem manager for the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company, told The Statesman.

The company is now advising customers affected regarding their new numbers, and these will appear in the new telephone directory for Salem and vicinity which will be distributed by September 4.

Berglund said there perhaps will continue to be a waiting list because of shortages in outside cables and wires in certain sections of the Salem exchange, but that "we are doing everything possible to see that everyone who wants telephone service can get it promptly." He said Salem had experienced a "phenomenal" telephone growth — some 6,000 since V-J day, counting the 2,000 to be placed in service in September.

Total telephones served by the Salem exchange by October 1 will be more than 17,000 Berglund estimated.